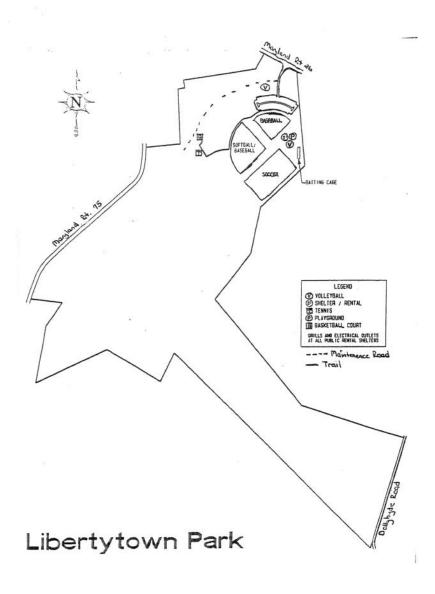
LIBERTYTOWN COMMUNITY PARK

By Marylou Stone



If you live in the eastern part of Frederick County, this is a wonderful park to explore. It has baseball diamonds, basketball court, tennis court, soccer field, and volleyball courts. It also has a small paved trail that leads out to the tennis and basketball court.

You can make a half-mile loop by taking the paved trail to the tennis court, circling around behind the tennis court and connecting with the maintenance road. The maintenance road is gravel and the paved trail has some wooden steps. But it still makes a nice and easy loop trail. For more than a half-mile, walk it several time.

I walked this trail on a cold winter morning and really enjoyed watching a red fox trying to catch his breakfast in the field behind the tennis court.

The trail also crosses a riparian buffer area. Trees, grasses, and shrubs are planted to slow and filter storm water before it enters a nearby creek. These plantings are used to absorb pollutants and prevent erosion. As you are walking look for the following trees: Sweet Gum, Sassafras, American Elm, Tulip Poplar, Black Gum, and Sugar Maple.